



Fall 2024

Starting in the fall of 2024, Richmond Men's Rugby will be competing in the Peninsula Division of the Cardinal College Conference. Richmond is now classified as a Division III team by [National Collegiate Rugby](#) (NCR), but will compete against a mixed conference of Division II (George Mason University, Old Dominion University, and Virginia Commonwealth University) as well as Division III (Christopher Newport University, Longwood University, and William & Mary) teams.

2023-24

The Richmond Men's Rugby Club had another stellar year of rugby on off the field as fourteen (14) of our student athletes were honored as [NCR Scholastic All-Americans](#).

Fall 2023

During the fall '23 season, your Richmond Spiders competed in the East Division of the Cardinal Conference which included Division II teams (George Mason, Old Dominion, and Virginia Commonwealth) as well as Small College teams (Hampden-Sydney, Longwood, and W&M). Richmond finished fall '23 with a 7-3 (4-2 conference) record taking the Bowl Championship at the Cardinal Conference Championships. Conference wins came against GMU, ODU, Longwood, and VCU. The Spiders lost to VMI, the 2024 Conference Champs, in the first round of the Conference tournament, but would defeat Radford University in extra time to take the 2024 Bowl Championship. During the fall season the Spiders amassed 303 points scored to 129 points conceded for a point differential of +174 and received votes during the season narrowly missing a top 20 ranking on two occasions.

Spring 2024

The Spiders opened their spring 7's season hosting the Cardinal Conference East teams winning 5 consecutive matches to finish 1st over George Mason in the final. The second Spider 7's Series hosted the Cardinal Conference top 8 teams with Richmond rebounding from a round 1 loss to move forward to the semi-finals and shut out UVA to only narrowly lose to Christendom College in the final match after beating them in pool play. Richmond also swept the 3rd Spider 7's Series with convincing victories over James Madison University, St. Mary's College of MD, and Elon University.

Now faced with our first qualifier, we traveled to Pittsburg, PA (IUPUI) won a Regional Qualifier to receive an [automatic qualifying bid to National Sevens](#) defeating Robert Morris University, Univ. of Pitt-Johnstown, Franciscan University of Steubenville, and John Carroll University in the final ([University Article](#)). At the Conference Qualifier, Richmond swept their pool, but lost focus and lost in the semi-final to a physical VMI side. At 7's Nationals in Boyd, MD, your Spiders faced the best 15 Small College teams in the country. After narrowly losing to the 2024 champs Slippery Rock in our first match we let two more slip through losing to Loyola (MD) and Howard University on day 1. However, the Spiders would recover on day 2 and return to playing Richmond Rugby as they beat Wesleyan University in the closing match [finishing 15th](#).

The Spiders finished their spring season with a 21-6 record (15-6 v. Small College; 6-0 v. D1/DII) scoring a total of 685 points and conceding 239 for a point differential of +446.

2022-2023

The Richmond Men's Rugby Club had great year of rugby on off the field as ten (10) of our student athletes were honored as [NCR Scholastic All-Americans](#).

Fall 2022

During the fall '22 season the Spiders competed in the Small College Division of the Cardinal Conference which included Emory & Henry College, Hampden-Sydney College, Longwood University, Roanoke College, Washington & Lee University, and the College of William & Mary. Richmond finished fall '22 with a 6-2 (5-1 conference) record finishing as the runner-up in the Small College Division in the Conference. Conference wins came against all but Emory & Henry as we traveled across state in a tropical storm to only narrowly lose in the closing moments to put a blemish on an almost perfect regular season. At the Conference Championships, the Spiders would defeat rivals Hampden-Sydney in the semi-final game, but would fall short in a hard-fought final with Washington & Lee. During the fall season the Spiders' attack resulted in 202 points scored to 74 points conceded for a point differential of +128.

Spring 2023

Looking to return 7's Nationals following an at-large bid in 2022, the Spiders set up a spring Spider 7's Series that would run three weekends capping off with hosting a National Regional Qualifier that would have four teams that would reach the 2023 7's Nationals. In the first tournament the Spiders would go 3-1 on the day only to fall to their fall nemesis W&L in another close final. The second weekend brought stronger 7's competition and Richmond would finish the day 2-2 losing only to perennial competitor Christendom College and the victorious DII Georgetown. The Spider 7's Series would cap with hosting a Regional National Qualifier to include Catholic, Christendom, Duke, Hampden-Sydney, Loyola (MD), Susquehanna, and VMI. The Spiders would go 2-1 in pool play handling Duke and Hampden-Sydney with ease and narrowly losing to Loyola (MD) only to lose a close one in expired time in the semi-finals to the eventual winners Christendom College end the qualifier 2-2.

This spring the Spiders also traveled to our cross-town rivals VCU for the annual Capital Cup where Richmond blanked the Rams 26-0 in a strong and convincing victory to seal the full Sports Club Capital Club Challenge as your Richmond Spiders took home the hardware in our only 15's match of the spring season.

In the Cardinal Conference Small College 7's Conference Qualifier, Richmond would travel to Lexington, VA to fight a long day after losing their opening match to Christendom only to return to form and beat the remaining teams in pool play (Emory & Henry, Elon University, and Radford University) to advance them to the semi-finals for a fourth consecutive win over Hampden Sydney landing Richmond in the final against Washington & Lee where they would redeem last seasons finals loss by defeating the "Screaming Minks" in the final to earn an [automatic bid to 7's Nationals](#) for the first time in club history capping the qualifier with a 5-1 record.

The 7's National stage would be held in Boyds, MD, but the Spiders would be placed in the "pool of death" and the weather would also prove an extra challenge as monsoon conditions didn't help as the Spiders played Babson College, eventual Champions, close in the first half, would fall to them in the match as well as Western Oregon in a close one ending pool play 0-2. As the weather wreaked havoc on the fields and schedules, play and brackets shifted on day two and the Spiders opened their day with a tough losses to UW Stevens Point and John Carroll University, but closed the tournament with a win against Loyola (MD) to finish 16th in the country in the [Small College](#) division.

The University of Richmond Men's Rugby Club has a long history of rugby that dates back to 1971 with many victorious seasons, Ed Lee Cup appearances and wins, championships, and network of amazing alumni and supporters. Bleed Richmond!